A Brief

TREATISE

OF

Religious Womens

MEETINGS

Services & Testimonies.

According to the Scriptures of Truth.

lso, something concerning *Womens* Prophecying and Teaching, *&c.*

ith some other observable things, (distinguishing the *Holy* from the *Unholy*) in the Scriptures cited. And an Objection answer'd, which is commonly rais'd from *Paul*'s words, 1 *Cor.* 14. 34, &c. and 1 *Tim.* 2. 12. &c.

itten for the Satisfaction of all that desire to be informed, by one, who by the free Grace of God is become a Searcher of the Scriptures, and a lover of Truth in the inward parts, both in the Male and Female, and is made a Witness in his day that God is pouring out of his Spirit both upon Sons and Daughters, Servants and Hand-maids, according to his Promise, Joel 2. 28. Acts 2. 17, 18.

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BISHOPSGATE WITHOUT E.C.

Womens Meetings in the Practice of, prov'd out of the Scriptures of Truth; and also something concerning Womens Prophecying and speaking in the Church, and who is permitted, and who not; with other observable things, as they fall in from the Scriptures cited.

MAry and *Elizabeth* did meet in the Name of the Lord, in the house of *Zacharias*, as you may read, *Luke* 1.39. And you may see what a blessed Meeting it was, *Elizabeth* was filled with the holy Ghost, and did propheſie; and *Mary* did magnifie the Name of the Lord, and her Spirit rejoyced in God her Saviour, and did likewise propheſie; so both of them had the Teſtimony of Jeſus, which is the Spirit of Propheſie, (*Rev.* 19. 10.) Here was the bleſſed Order, *Ye may all propheſie one by one, that all may learn, and all be comforted*, (1 *Cor.* 14. 31.) This was the Order of Chriſt's Church, who walked and lived in the comely Order, the Spirit of Truth dwelling and living in their

hearts, who led and guided them, and and brought them into this Order of the Goſpel: But when Antichriſt came to be ſet up in mans heart, he led them from this Order, and preacht againſt this Order, and forbad this Order, and perſecuted, and doth perſecute them who are found in this Order, calling Chriſt's comely Order Diſorder. In Chriſt's bleſſed Order Women met together as well as Men, and preached and prayed together, and propheſied one by one as well as Men.

In this Meeting there is no mention made that there was any man at it; and yet you may ſee they were filled with the holy Ghoſt, and did propheſie and ſpeak bleſſed words one to another, as you may read at large in that firſt Chapter of *Luke*. And though *Zacharias* was a Prieſt, and righteous before God, walking in all the Commandments and Ordinances of the Lord blameleſs, yet we do not read that he reproved them, nor that he forbad them. But the Dragon and his Servants are wrath with the Woman, the true Church, and makes war with them which keep the Commandments of God, and have the teſtimony of Jeſus Chriſt, (*Rev.* 12.17.) And the teſtimony of Jeſus Chriſt is the Spirit of Propheſie, as before is ſaid, which the Lord God

God hath promiſed to pour forth upon *Daughters* as well as *Sons*, upon *Hand-maids* as well as well as *Men-ſervants* (*Joel* 2. 28. *Acts* 2. 17, 18.) But the ſeed of the Woman, Chriſt Jeſus, will bruiſe the ſerpent's head, and is a bringing his ſons and daughters, ſervants and hand-maidens into the order of his own Goſpel again; *Where two or three are gathered together in my Name, there am I* (ſaid Chriſt) *in the midſt of them.* Here was but two (that we read of) at this Meeting, *Mary* and *Elizabeth*, and we ſee he was in them; it is he in them that preacheth and propheſieth, it is he in them that ſpeaks, or elſe the Serpent ſpeaks; but it was Chriſt Jeſus that ſpake in thoſe holy women, for they were filled with his holy ſpirit of Truth, and propheſied ſweetly in his Name.

It was the ſerpent that inſtructed *Eve* when ſhe taught her husband, *Adam*, to break God's command, and to eat of the fruit of the forbidden Tree; and you may ſee what was the end of ſuch eating; O curſed Doctrine! for they were both driven out of the Garden of God, to the ground that brought for thorns & thiſtles; it is to be lamented that we have too many teachers, ſuch as *Eve* was, in this our Age, Day and Generation, both of men and wo-

men, as clearly appeareth by the fruits their inward ground bringeth forth, to wit, Bryars, Thorns and Thistles; but such Earth (said *Paul*, *Heb.* 6. 8.) is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing, whose end is to be burned. Such Teaching as this, such Doctrine as this is forbidden both by Law and Gospel, whether it proceed from men or women. The Women who live in Pride and in the Vanities of their Minds, cannot be teachers of good things: But Women who are turned to Christ Jesus, and by him redeem'd out of the vanities of this present evil World, out of the Lusts of the Flesh, out of the Lusts of the Eyes, and out of the Pride of Life, being fill'd with the spirit of Truth; such womens teaching, such *womens* praying and prophecying in the Church is not forbidden neither by Law nor Gospel; they being first taught themselves by the eternal & free *spirit of God*, which is poured forth upon daughters as well as sons, upon hand-maids as well as upon men-servants, upon the female as well as upon the male; for the man and the woman is all one in the Lord, it was the serpent that at first made the difference, and it is the serpent and his instructed that keep up the difference.

And you who are against Womens speaking in the Church, what do you think of

Anna,

Anna, the Prophetess, that good old Widow, who spake of Christ to all them that looked for Redemption in *Jerusalem*: Do you think this good old Woman did right in so doing? This Woman knew him, and gave thanks to the Lord, even in the Temple, and spoke in the Temple of him, even publickly to them all, and yet we do not read that she was judged, and rebuked for so doing, neither was she hurried and put out of Doors, nor put in Prison, nor banished out of the Town; good old *Simeon*, who was inspired with the Spirit of God, reproved her not, neither did he forbid her; but they joyned in their Testimony, being filled by the same Spirit, and gave thanks to the Lord together, and spake of Christ one by one, both being in the Temple together, the one spake after the other, as they were moved by the same Spirit of God, and as the holy Ghost revealed unto them, so they brought it forth, they neither added nor diminished: And here was the good Order, the comely and lively Order, the Man and the Woman in the Restoration by Christ Jesus, made Meet-helps one to another in the work of the Gospel, joyning their Testimony together, speaking and prophecying of Christ in the Temple to all them who looked

looked for Redemption in *Jerusalem*; they are both recorded in holy Scripture, and their Testimony set down, as you may read, *Luk.* 2. from *ver.* 25. to 39. the Spirit of God seeing it meet so to do, that the Mouths of Gain-sayers may be stopt.

But such teaching as *Potiphars* Wife taught *Joseph* (*Gen.* 39. 12.) is to be resisted and denyed, for she inticed and taught him to commit Adultery, and so to defile the Temple of God; read 1 *Cor.* 3. 16, 17. and *chap.* 6. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19.

But such teaching as King *Lemuels* Mother taught him, is to be obeyed; for she taught him, not to give his strength unto Women, nor his wayes to that which destroyeth Kings: *It is not for Kings, O Lemuel! it is not for Kings to drink Wine, nor for Princes strong Drink, lest they drink and forget the Law, and pervert the Judgement of any of the Afflicted*, &c. Such Doctrine as this, such Teaching as this, such a Prophesie as this is to be believed, and obeyed, and not slighted nor quenched; such a Woman as this might be permitted to speak and prophesie in the Church, though even before Kings and Princes. And O that our King and Rulers would follow her Advice, it would be better with them then it is! read *Prov.* 31. from *ver.* 1. to 10.

Such

Such teaching as *Jezebel* taught the Elders and Nobles (so called) but they proved ignoble in their proceedings, in the receiving the Testimony of false Witnesses against *Naboth*, and in murdering of him: I say, the counsel and advice she gave these Elders and Nobles that lived in outward *Jezrel* with *Naboth*, is to be denyed and resisted, and will be denyed and resisted by all them who live and dwell in inward *Jezreel* (to wit, in the Seed of God) for she taught them to set up false Witnesses, and to murder *Naboth*, to fulfil the the covetous desire of her Husband, King *Ahab*; And also she taught *Ahab* to take possession of *Naboth's* Vineyard, when she had caused him to be murdered. This *Jezebel* slew the Prophets of the Lord, and maintained many false Prophets, the Prophets of *Baal*, and of the Groves, at her own Table, they fed upon the fatest of things at the Queen's Table, while the Prophets of the Lord, even those of them that had escaped her murdering Arm, had nothing but Bread and Water, fed by *Obadiah* secretly in Caves. Such teaching as this, that teaches People to slay and murder, and shed Blood for covetous ends and practices, and to maintain their Pride and Galantry,

or

or for any other Selfish-ends, is to be denyed and testified against.

It is to be lamented, that we have too many *Jezebelians* in this our Age, who teach People to slay and murder, and shed Blood, maintaining her Prophets with large allowances at her Table, while the Mediator of the New-Testament, Christ Jesus, the heavenly Prophet, hath nothing amongst them, but the fruitless Fig-tree, and hath not whereon to lay his Head in all the Earth of their Hearts: And his Servants, both Men and Women, who follow him the heavenly Light, are accounted by those *Jezebelians*, not worthy to live in the Earth. But *Jezebel*'s day is near an end, and her Night is fast approaching, wherein she will be cast into a Bed, and them that commit Adultry with her, into great Tribulation, except they Repent of their Deeds, the Sword is drawn against her Children, and hath drunk some of their Blood already: O that they may repent, and prevent a further and heavier stroke.

But such teaching, and such an advice as *Abigail* gave to *David*, is to be received and obeyed; for she counselled him not to shed Blood, neither to avenge himself with

with his own Hand. And *David* when he came to the coolneſs of his mind, knew that ſhe was ſent of God, and ſaid to *Abigail*, *Bleſſed be the Lord God of* Iſrael, *which ſent thee this day to meet me, and bleſſed be thy Advice; and bleſſed be thou which haſt kept me this day from coming to ſhed Blood, and from avenging my ſelf with my own Hand.* O that all men and women would take notice of this bleſſed Advice and Counſel, given by a Woman! Here the Lord ſent the Woman to adviſe and counſel the Man, and *David* hearkened to her Voice, and obeyed her Counſel, and took her Advice, and he never had reaſon to repent it; the Seed of the Woman at this time trod upon the Head of the murdering Serpent. O that our Nation were filled with many ſuch Women like *Abigail*, to give good counſel unto Men, and that our men would receive their counſel, and not avenge themſelves with their own Hand, but leave all Vengeance to him with whom it is to take Vengeance on his Adverſaries, and Recompence the wrong done unto his Servants. And you may ſee how quickly the Lord pleaded *David*'s Cauſe and his Reproach with churliſh *Nabal*.

But ſuch teaching as *Job*'s Wife taught him, and ſuch an advice as ſhe gave him,

is to be reſiſted and denyed, as righteous *Job* did, for ſhe taught and adviſed him to curſe God and dye; But *Job* told her, that ſhe ſpoke like one of the fooliſh Women; *Should we*, ſaid he, *receive good at the Hands of God, and not receive evil alſo?*

And *Solomon* when he was old, his Wives turned away his Heart from the Lord, to follow after the Abominations of the Nations, ſo that his Heart was not perfect with the Lord: Such Womens teachings, ſnares and inticements are to be denyed and reſiſted.

And alſo ſuch teaching and inſtruction as *Herodias*, *Philip's* Wife, gave unto her dancing Daughter, is not of God, the Serpent is Head in ſuch, the bloody Dragon rules in ſuch; read *Matth.* 14. And ſuch are to be teſtified againſt, for it is the Serpent's Voice, the Antichriſtian Voice that ſounds through ſuch, and not the Voice of Chriſt.

Abraham was commanded of God to hearken unto the Voice of *Sarah*, and caſt out the Bond-women *Hagar*, with her mocking Son *Iſhmael*; and although the thing was very grievous in his ſight, yet he reſiſted not, but obeyed the Voice of his Wife: Here was no Uſurpation (as is vainly ſuppoſed) the thing was right before

fore the Lord; *Sarah* was to be hearkned unto in this thing, the Bond-woman was not to rule in the *house* with her, she was the Free Woman, neither was her Son *Ishmael* the mocker, to be Heir with the Child of Promise, *Isaac* the righteous Seed: And yet *Sarah* was in subjection to her own Husband, and called him, *Lord*; and so is every Woman that is truly leavened with the Spirit of God. And Christ is greater than *Abraham*, who is the Head and Husband of all the Daughters of *Zion*; and these Women who have Christ to their heavenly Husband and Head, they will never be found out of their Duty and lawful Subjection to their natural Husbands, if they have any. And it is only those Women (be they outwardly joyned to a Husband, or free) who are marryed to Christ, and he Lord in them, and Head in them, that are permitted and allowed to speak in the Church, and by him they are strengthened and assisted to be teachers of good things. The King's Daughter is all glorious within, and it is from this Glory within, Christ Jesus in them, that they do propheſie and speak in the Church, or else their Doctrine is not received, but rejected by the Children of Light, be they Male or Female. The Lord hath given a good

good measure of discerning to many in this day, and hath opened that Ear in many, that can try and taste Words, as the Mouth doth Meat, and know from what Fountain every Word cometh.

Such teaching as the Woman of *Samaria* taught the Men of *Samaria*, *John* 4. 29. is not to be slighted and neglected, she said unto them, *Come, see a man that told me all things that ever I did, is not this the Christ?* And many of the *Samaritans* of the City believed on him for the saying of the Woman, and came unto Christ, and were confirmed in their Faith: Here was an effectual Preacher, and here was an open hearted People; she was made Instrumental to them, in that she prevailed with the People; and they were a noble minded People, because they received her Testimony, and came unto Christ, and so was confirmed in the truth of her Testimony. O! how may the Professors of this Age be ashamed and confounded in themselves when they read this; the *Samaritans* believed, but they will not believe. The Lord hath sent out his Servants and faithful Messengers, both Male and Female, to invite you all to come unto Christ, and to turn unto Christ's Light in you. And our Testimony is, and hath been all along

since

ſince God raiſed us up to be a People, that this is he, and not another, that tells us all things whatſoever we have done: It is he, and not another, that ſearches the Heart of every man and woman, and tryeth their Reigns, and ſheweth unto them their Thoughts; but oh, alas! who among you believes our Report? or who among you believes the Teſtimony of the holy Scriptures, concerning this firſt and only Principle of the Doctrine of Chriſt Jeſus? ſee *Jer.* 17. 10. ſee alſo *Pſal.* 7. 9. and 1 *Chron.* 28. 9. and *Rev.* 2. 23. and *Amos* 4. 13. See and read theſe Scriptures; for if you will not believe *Moſes* and the Prophets, neither will you believe though one were raiſed from the Dead and ſent to you: And my Teſtimony is one and the ſame with the holy men of God, *That he that formeth the Mountains aud createth the Wind, and declareth unto Man what is his Thought, and maketh the Morning darkneſs, and treadeth upon the high places of the Earth, the Lord, the God of Hoſts is his Name.* And *Paul*, the faithful Servant of Jeſus Chriſt, ſaith, 2 *Cor.* 13. 5. *Examin your ſelves whether you be in the Faith, prove your own ſelves; know ye not your own ſelves how that Jeſus Chriſt is in you, except ye be Reprobates.* Oh! who among you receives this, that

Chriſt

Christ Jesus the Son of God is in you? Have you yet turned your Minds, with your whole Affections and Desires to him in you? You say you believe the Scriptures, and that *Paul* was a true and faithful Minister of Jesus Christ; if you do, than take his Counsel, and obey the Scriptures, and turn to him in you, and you will find that a day in his Courts, is better than a thousand elsewhere. O turn you, turn you, speedily and in haste to Christ Jesus, the true Light in you, which searcheth your Hearts and tries your Reins; I say, turn while your Day lasteth, and while the precious Light is in you, & while his Spirit striveth with you, lest his Spirit cease striving with you any more, and your Day pass over, and the Door be shut, and you without, left in a Night of utter Darkness: O dreadful Darkness! &c. But now to our purpose in hand.

Exod. 15. 20. And *Miriam* the Prophetess, the Sister of *Aaron*, took a Timbrel in her Hand, and all the Women went out after her with Timbrels and with Dances, and *Miriam* answered them, *Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously, the Horse and his Rider hath he thrown into the Sea.* Here were Women assembled to Praise the Lord, in the day when God delivered his People out of *Ægypt*; and here

here was Songs of Deliverance sung unto the Lord by holy Women, in the day when God had thrown the Horse and his Rider into the Sea. Here was Women met, and here was Women Propheteſſes, a part from the Men, and yet we read not that *Moſes* reproved them, nor that *Aaron* reproved them.

And now in this Day, wherein God is delivering his ſpiritual *Iſrael* out of *Egypt*, from under the Bondage of ſpiritual *Pharaoh*, and bringing them through the *Red Sea*, and by his mighty Power and outſtretched Arm caſting the Horſe and his Rider, to wit, the Beaſt and the Whore, into the bottom of the Sea. I ſay, in this day, our Women in their travel being made Witneſſes of the Work of God, and of the wonderful Deliverances wrought by his outſtretched Arm of Power, cannot but meet together, and praiſe God together without outward Symbals, and ſpeak often one to another, and ſtir up one another in the Grace of God that brings their Salvation, and hath called them, and brought them out of Darkneſs, to be partakers with his Saints in Light. And they who are againſt them in this Practice of meeting together, and of prophecying one by one when met together, and Pray-

ing and Praising together; I say, they who are against them in this holy and comely Order, are not of *Moses*'s Spirit, nor of *Aaron*'s Spirit, but in a contrary Spirit. *Numb.* 11. 29. *Would God that all the Lords People were Prophets, and that the Lord would put his Spirit upon them* And the Lords People are Women as well as Men, Daughters as well as Sons, Hand-maidens as well as Men-Servants, as before is said.

Zach. 12. 12. *And the Land shall mourn every Family apart; the Family of the House of* David *apart, and their Wives apart; the Family of the House of* Nathan *apart, and their Wives apart; the Family of the House of* Levi *apart, and their Wives apart; the Family of* Shimei *apart, and their Wives apart; All the Families that remain,* [Mark, that remain] *every Family apart, and their Wives apart.*

Here the Prophet of the Lord *Zachariah* tells us, that there shall be Men and Womens Meetings, both apart the one from the other.

Object. But some may say, *This is in the dayes of Mourning,* &c.

Answ. Yea, it is in the day of Mourning; for the day of Mourning goeth before the day of Joy and Rejoycing: *Blessed are they* (said Christ, *Matth.* 5. 4.) *that Mourn,*

for

for they shall be Comforted. And the reason of their Mourning is given in the 10th *Verse* of *Zach.* 12. *They shall look upon me whom they have Pierced, and they shall Mourn for him,* &c. And so you may see that the gathering is to him, whom they have pierced. [And if they were to Mourn apart, then who shall hinder their Rejoycing and Praising God apart, when the time is come?] *Rev.* 1. 7. *Behold, he cometh with Clouds,* (mark) *and every Eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all Kindreds of the Earth shall Wail because of him; even so, Amen.* And the gathering is, and must be to him whom they have pierced, when the Lord opens the Eyes both of the Male and Female, to see him whom they have pierced: they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only Son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born. *They that sow in Tears shall reap in Joy* (*Psal.* 126. 5.) Those Women who were gathered together, to mourn for him who was crucified and pierced, it was not long that they had waited at the Sepulchre Mourning, till they were made Witnesses of his Resurrection, and then joy and gladness filled their Hearts; yea, these holy Women were made Witnesses before the

Men, the Lord seeing it meet in his Wisdom to reveal himself to, and in the weaker Vessels, that he may stain the Pride of all Flesh, and bring into contempt all the honourable of the Earth.

Matth. 27. 55, 56. *And many Women were there (beholding afar off) which followed Jesus from* Galilee, *ministring unto him.* Here was Women Ministers, ministring unto Christ, among which was *Mary Magdalen*, and *Mary* the Mother of *James* and *Joses*, and the Mother of *Zebedee*'s Children. Here was a Meeting of Women following Jesus from *Galilee*. And who can forbid a gathering of Women, following the Light of Christ, out of the World, from all its Affections and Lusts, even through the Cross to the Death, that they may witness through him the Resurrection unto Life eternal, and so rejoyce and praise him together?

Mark 16. 9. *Now when Jesus was risen early, the first day of the Week, he appeared first to* Mary Magdalen, *out of whom he had cast seven Devils, and she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.* Here was Mourners and Weepers in the men's Meeting, as well as among the Women.

And who can forbid the Women to come

come to the Men, and declare it to the men, when they are made Witneſſes of the Reſurrection of the Life of Jeſus Chriſt in their own Hearts, as *Mary Magdalen* did to the Apoſtles.

Acts 16. 13. *And on the Sabbath we went out of the City by a River-ſide, where Prayer was wont to be made, and we ſate down, and ſpake unto the Women which reſorted thither.* Here was a Womans meeting by a River-ſide: And here *Paul* and thoſe that were with him, came and ſate down with them, and *Paul* ſpake to them, and the Lord opened *Lydia*'s Heart. So as men feel a freedom from the Lord, and a true deſire raiſed up in them, they may go to the womens meetings, and viſit the womens meetings, and ſit down with them, and wait upon the Lord together, and Pray and Prophecy together, and Praiſe the Lord together.

Deborah was a Propheteſs, and judged *Iſrael*, and was a Mother in *Iſrael*; and what a Prophecy ſhe propheſied in the Name of the Lord, and what gracious Words proceeded from the Spirit of God through her, you may read at large in the fourth and fifth Chapter of *Judges*.

Hannah was a good Woman, and ſhe prayed in her Heart, and ſpoke in her

Heart unto the Lord, and the Lord heard her, and gave her her Requeſt; he gave her *Samuel*, and *Samuel* was one of the Lords Prophets; and after ſhe had brought forth her firſt-born, ſhe rendred Thanks unto the Lord: and what gracious Words came from Gods own Spirit in this Woman, you may read, 1 *Sam.* 2.

And there was a wiſe Woman in *Abel* of *Beth-maacah*, who gave good Counſel unto *Joab*, and to the men of the City, and delivered the City from Deſtruction; ſhe was one that was peaceable and faithful, and a Mother in *Iſrael*, as you may read, 2 *Sam.* 20. Such women as theſe may be permitted to ſpeak in the Church, and will not be hindred nor ſtopt by the Righteous: But the covetous proud Prieſthood of this Generation is of another mind, warring againſt the appearance of God, both in the Male and Female, forbidding all either to Preach or Propheſie, except thoſe who are approved and licenſed by themſelves, and has received their Mark; but their Building is ſhaken, and their Foundation diſcovered, and their Power is broken and ſcattered, and the Conſumption determined, is come and coming upon them; read *Zach.* 14. 12, 13.

And you may read 2 *King.* 22. How *Hilkiah*

Hilkiah the Prieſt found the Book of the Law in the Houſe of the Lord, and gave it to *Shaphan* the Scribe, and he read it, and alſo he read it to the King; and we ſee how tender the Heart of good *Joſiah* the King was, and how he rent his Clothes and humbled himſelf, and how he ſent *Hilkiah* the Prieſt, and others of his Counſellors, to enquire of the Lord for him and the People, and for all *Judah*, concerning the words of the Book of the Law, that had been loſt, and was found in the Houſe of God; for the King perceived that the Wrath of the Lord was great againſt them, becauſe they and their Fathers had not hearkened unto the words of the Book of the Law, to do accordingly to what there was written; and they went unto *Huldah* the Propheteſs, and enquired at her.

What! was there not a Prophet in all *Jeruſalem* nor in *Judea* to enquire at, that they went to the Propheteſs? Was there not a man that knew the Word of the Lord, that they went to a Woman? Yea, there was; howbeit they went to a woman, and the Lord ſpake to them by a woman; *They read the Words in the Book of the Law without them*, *Jer.* 1. 2. But this woman read in the Book of Life.

Come, hear all you who despise Womens Teaching and Prophecying in the Church, answer me plainly, What do you think of this Woman? If she were in your dayes, would you not forbid her, and tell her, that women are not permitted to teach or prophesie, and that *Paul* permits not a Woman to speak in the Church? Oh! that the Lord God may open your Eyes to see and know what Women those are that *Paul* speaks of there, and then I know, that the best of you who are against holy Womens speaking in the Church, would be quiet your selves, and forbear speaking in the Church till ye come to dwell in that holy Spirit wherein this holy Woman *Huldah* dwelt; for I here declare, that all men, as well as women, that is, in their first fallen estate, in their first birth, in old *Adam*'s nature, let them be never so gloriously adorn'd with knowledge, learning and wisdom, arts, parts and sciences, I say, they are nothing then but Women not permitted to speak in Christs Church. But in the new and second Birth, the man and the woman is all one in the Lord; and the man and the woman that comes through the Cross of Christ to have the first man crucified and slain in them, and the second birth brought forth in them, and they being born again

again, not of corruptible ſeed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God which liveth and abideth forever; I ſay, be it either man or woman that comes to this ſtate, may preach and propheſie in the Church, and ſpeak, and pray, and praiſe God in the Church; for it is not they that ſpeak, but it is Chriſt Jeſus that ſpeaketh in them, they being nothing but the empty Pitcher, until the heavenly Light and Life appear, and Chriſt doth utter his Voice through their earthly Tabernacles; for we preach not our ſelves, (ſaid *Paul*, 2 *Cor.* 4. 5, 6, 7.) but Chriſt Jeſus the Lord, and our ſelves your ſervants for Jeſus ſake; for God who commanded the Light to ſhine out of Darkneſs, hath ſhined in our hearts, to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jeſus Chriſt, (ſee alſo *Mat.* 17.2.) *But we have this Treaſure in earthen Veſſels, that the excellency of the Power may be of* GOD, *and not of* US.

There is a great Myſtery lieth hidden in all the Scriptures of Truth, which the firſt man ſeeth not, and knoweth not; but it is opened in the Light of the Lord, in the glorious face of Jeſus Chriſt, to the truly ſincere and ſeeking Soul, who loves the Light and hates Darkneſs; I ſay, in this 14 *verſ.* of the 22 *chap.* of 2 *King.* there lieth open a clear

clear Manifeſtation of the place & dwelling of a true Prophet or Propheteſs; the enlightn'd Mind doth ſee it in the openings of the *Springs of Life*, in the face of *Jeſus Chriſt* they ſee it) whoſe face doth ſhine as the Sun in his ſtrength, and his Rayment is white as the Light: O that the vail were taken off all *hearts*, & that the *eyes* of all might be open'd and anointed with Chriſt's Eye-ſalve, that they may ſee & believe in him, and turn to him who rends the vail & breaks down the middle wall of partition; it is the true Light and Life (in man and in woman) of Chriſt Jeſus in them, that opens all the Myſteries of his Father's Kingdom.

The King and his Nobles, and *Hilkiah* the Prieſt had a knowledge of God and his Law by holy Hiſtory, and by Report and Hear-ſay, and they were zealouſly affected & real ſo far as they did know; but *Huldah*, that godly Woman was come to the holy Spirit of Propheſie, where ſhe knew and heard the Voice of God immediately, and ſaw him by the ſeeing of the Eye of her Soul, as *Job* did.

The King, and the Prieſt, and the Scribe, and the reſt of the King's Counſellors had the outward Book of the Law, which was found in the outward Temple, open'd unto them: But *Huldah*, this godly Women and Propheteſs

Prophetess of the Lord had the inward Book of the Law, which she had found in the inward Temple, opened unto her by him, who openeth the Seals in all Ages, even Christ Jesus the Lamb of God, the Lyon of the Tribe of *Judah*, the Root and Off-spring of *David*, the bright and morning Star, the Light and Life of men; I say, he had open'd the Book of Life unto *Huldah*, and doth open it to all who believe in and follow him, both Men and Women.

They read in the Law and believed it, and were humbled before the Lord, and their hearts were tendred, and they wept; and this was and is acceptable with God in its time and place; Oh! that this were the case with Kings, Nobles and People this day, wherein there is as great a Cloud of Wrath hanging over our heads, and ready to be poured forth because of our Transgressions, Iniquities and Rebellions, as ever hung over the heads of *Israel* in the days of old, we are guilty of the like Transgressions, and may expect the same Punishments, if speedy and unfeigned Repentance prevent it not; and it would have been poured out long e'er now, but that the Lord waits to be gracious, and is calling and hastening People out of *Sodom*, that they be not consumed in the Flames of eternal Vengeance.

Oh!

Oh! this Land is guilty, guilty, let great and ſmall, and Perſons of all ranks and degrees lay it to heart. But to return to our purpoſe in hand.

The King, and the Prieſt, and the Scribe, and the reſt, read and heard read the Book of the Law written by *Moſes* and others of the Lords Prophets, and believed what was written, and was humbled before the Lord, when they heard of the Wrath denounced becauſe of their Iniquities and Rebellions; and this (as I ſaid before) was acceptable with God in its time and place: But men and women are not to ſtay here, nor ſet up their ſtandard here, but they are to travel on, till they come to witneſs deliverance from the Evil, againſt which the Wrath is denounced; and till they come to travel beyond the Hiſtorical knowledge and hear-ſay, and be made partakers of the Life it ſelf, even the Life of the Son of God, manifeſted in their earthen Veſſels, and they being born again, without which they can neither ſee, nor enter the Kingdom of God, nor hear the Voice of God in his own Kingdom. *Huldah* was come here, and had her dwelling here, to wit, into the new Birth, and here ſhe read in the Book of Life, and heard the Word of the Lord;

Lord; And the King, and the Priest, and the rest knew this, and therefore was not satisfied with what they could learn from the Letter of the Law, till they went and inquired at her, who knew the Word of the Lord; and what effect the Word of the Lord, through this good Woman, had upon good King *Josiah*, and the rest, you may read, 2 *King*. 23.

There is one thing more, which comes before me, which I may not let pass, and that is, the grievous mistake of the Letter-learned, who profess themselves to be the only men; and I verily think, believe themselves to be the only men that are endued with Wisdom, and Gifts to govern the People, and to teach the People the way to the Kingdom of Heaven, which Kingdom of Heaven signifieth in Scripture-Language, *Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the holy Ghost*; (Rom. 14. 17, 18.) *For he*, (saith *Paul*) *that in these things serveth Christ, is acceptable to God, and approved of Men*. But what Righteousness we have had, and how much Peace we have enjoyed under these Letter-learned men's government and teaching, let the present Broils and Contentions that are found amongst their Followers and Scholars bear witness: You may see in this 14th

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Lord; And the King, and the Prieſt, and the reſt knew this, and therefore was not ſatisfied with what they could learn from the Letter of the Law, till they went and inquired at her, who knew the Word of the Lord; and what effect the Word of the Lord, through this good Woman, had upon good King *Joſiah*, and the reſt, you may read, 2 *King.* 23.

There is one thing more, which comes before me, which I may not let paſs, and that is, the grievous miſtake of the Letter-learned, who profeſs themſelves to be the only men; and I verily think, believe themſelves to be the only men that are endued with Wiſdom, and Gifts to govern the People, and to teach the People the way to the Kingdom of Heaven, which Kingdom of Heaven ſignifieth in Scripture-Language, *Righteouſneſs, Peace and Joy in the holy Ghoſt*; (Rom. 14. 17, 18.) *For he,* (ſaith *Paul*) *that in theſe things ſerveth Chriſt, is acceptable to God, and approved of Men.* But what Righteouſneſs we have had, and how much Peace we have enjoyed under theſe Letter-learned men's government and teaching, let the preſent Broils and Contentions that are found amongſt their Followers and Scholars bear witneſs: You may ſee in this 14th

Verſe

Verſe of 2 *Kings* Chap. 22. The Tranſlators of the Scriptures call it the Colledge where *Huldah* that holy Propheteſs dwelt; they (to wit, the Letter-learned men) imagining that none can be a Prophet but thoſe who have dwelt in their Colledges, and are trained up there; this Colledge they account their ſecond part; their *Engliſh* and *Grammer* Schools they account their firſt part. Firſt, they put their Sons to the *Engliſh* and *Grammer*-Schools, being their firſt part; and when learned there, then they put them to the *Colledge*, which is their ſecond part, and when learned there, then commonly comes forth three ſorts, to wit, *Lawyers*, *Phyſitians*, and thoſe they call *Divines*, *Miniſters*, &c. But to let paſs the firſt two, I intend to ſpeak ſomething concerning the third, to wit, theſe men called Miniſters thus prepared in their *Grammar*-Schools and Colledges. Now being paſſed through theſe two parts, and learned there, and have ſerved their Apprenticeſhips there, and approved by their Teachers there, and made *Maſter John* and *Maſter James*, &c. there; (contrary to Chriſt's command, *Mat.* 23. 8.) then they come forth as Journeymen, and take what employment they can have amongſt their Kindred, Acquaintance

ance and Relations, and amongſt the men of their own Trade; ſome of them go home to their Friends and Relations, and are maintained by them till they be prefered to ſome place or other; and others go among the men of their own Trade, and Preach here and there where they are employed, crouching to them (as it is ſaid concerning thoſe, 1 *Sam.* 2. 36.) for a piece of Silver and a morſel of Bread, ſaying, *Put me (I pray thee) into one of the Prieſts Offices, that I may eat a piece of Bread.* Others of them go and ſeek out a place where they may ſojourn, and are hired many of them for ſo much a Year, by the great Men and great Women of the Nation, to be their Chaplains; and there they ſtay till they be prefered to ſome Pariſh or other, where they get a larger allowance of Wages and Hire; juſt as the Young Man the *Levite* did, (*Judg.* 17.) where he hired himſelf with *Micah* for ten Shekels of Silver by the Year, and a ſuit of Apparel, and there he ſtayed till he found a better place, and greater preferment with the *Danites*, as you may read, *Judg.* 18.

And ſo they having read and ſtudied Letter-Authors and Hiſtories, come forth Miniſters of the Letter and Hiſtory, not of the Spirit. But in this our Age theſe

Letter-

Letter-learned men bring not the People to know the Hiſtory of the holy Scriptures truly as it is, but corrupts their Underſtandings, darkening their Minds with their dark and doubtful Expoſitions and Meanings, deceiving the Hearts of the ſimple with their fair Words and eloquent Speeches.

Let none miſtake me here, for I have nothing of enmity or hatred in my heart againſt any Biſhop, Prieſt or Miniſter (ſo called) in all the World, but love & good will to them, as they are Men, and the Creatures of God; only that which I feel that the Spirit of God in me is preſſing after, is that Deceit may be diſcovered, and Truth manifeſted unto all, and that all may come to ſee and imbrace that Truth that ſets free from Sin, Deceit and Falſhood.

And there was a little Maid that waited on *Naaman*'s Wife (as you may read, 2 *King.* 5.) and ſhe gave good Counſel unto her Miſtriſs, and wiſhed that her Lord were with the Prophet in *Samaria*, for he would recover him of his Leproſie. Here was good Counſel given by a little Maid; a good Advice indeed, for it had a good effect, *Naaman* obeyed her Counſel, and went to the man of God *Eliſha*, and he directed him what to do, and after he

e had obeyed the Prophet, he was made witneſs of the cleanſing vertue of *Jordan*.

And now in this our day, *Wiſdom* hath ent forth her faithful and chaſte Amaſſadors, [which the wiſe Man is ot aſhamed to entitule by the Name of *r Maidens*] intreating all, and inviting ll, and wiſhing that all, both great men nd great women, Poor and Rich would ome unto the Prophet, whom God hath ppointed and ordained for Salvation to he ends of the Earth, that he might direct hem how to be cleanſed and waſhed from he Leproſie of Sin. The little Maid directed *Naaman* to the Prophet in *Samaria*: And theſe in this day, whom the Lord ſends forth (both Male and Female) direct them to the true Light in themſelves, the Witneſs of God, Chriſt Jeſus in them, that he may direct every one of them what to do to have the Leproſie of Sin done away, and Iniquity purged out. And as the Prophet in *Samaria* directed *Naaman* to waſh ſeven times in outward *Jordan*, to have his outward *Leproſie* waſhed away; ſo this inward Prophet, Chriſt Jeſus in us, hath directed all who are truly come unto him, to walk in the Light, with which he hath lighted them, till they witneſs his precious Blood

to cleanse them from all Sin; and all who have obeyed him, and continued walking and abiding in his Light, have witnessed that *Jordan* in themselves to have a precious vertue to cleanse from the Leprosie of Sin; and this we feel, that the oftner we wash in this heavenly *Jordan*, the cleaner we are, and the more tender we are, that even some have their inward Flesh, or heart of Flesh, made as tender as the flesh of a new born Babe. But who hath believed our Report, and turned at the Reproofs of *Wisdom?* to them is the Arm and Power of the Lord revealed: But to them who are disobedient, the Stone which the Builders refused in all Ages, and the *Babylonish* Builders refuse in this Age, is become a Stone of Stumbling and Rock of Offence; but to us who believe he is precious, and we have felt his cleansing and healing Virtue, glory to his Name forever. In this History concerning *Naaman* I take notice of several clear things, opened to me by the Light of the Lord.

First, we see that after *Naaman* had given ear to the Advice and Counsel of the *little Maid*; he went to the King of *Syria*, his Master, who was so far from hindering him, that he writ a Letter with him, & directed it to the King of *Israel*; but herein he was mistaken

miſtaken, for he ſhould have directed *Naaman* to the Prophet, according to the little Maids Advice. And we ſee likewiſe how the King of *Iſrael* thought that the King of *Syria* was ſeeking a Quarrel againſt him, as you may read at large in 2 *Kings* 5. Now the little Maid had not directed him to the King, but to go to the Prophet, for the King could not do it: And ſo there Jealouſies aroſe from a Miſtake, as too to many do this day: Many are the Quarrellings, Contendings, Warrings and Fightings, that ariſe from Miſtakes; one Party crying, *Lo here*, and another Party crying, *Lo there is Chriſt:* And to tell the truth, neither of them knowing where is Chriſt. And when *Wiſdom's* little Maidens direct them both, and all of them to the true Light in themſelves, to Chriſt, the true Prophet in themſelves, they reject their Advice and Counſel, and ſay, *it is not he*; calling his Light in them but *natural* and *inſufficient* for them, and many of them give it very bad Names, and ſo reject it, and turn from it, and fall a quarrelling and fighting among themſelves again, contending for the true Chriſt, when neither of them has him revealed, as appears by their Fruits.

Now when *Eliſha*, the man of God, heard that the King had rent his Clothes, that he

ſent to the King, ſaying, *Wherefore haſt thou rent thy Clothes? let him come now to me, and he ſhall know that there is a Prophet in* Iſrael. O that all Kings and Rulers were turned to the true Prophet Chriſt Jeſus, to the true Light in themſelves, and would direct all their People to him, then their Rents and Diviſions would quickly come to an end; for he is the *Healer of the Breaches*, and he is the *Prince of Peace*, all his ſubjects are peaceable, their Song is, *Glory to God in the Higheſt, and on Earth Peace and good Will towards men.*

Now when *Naaman* was come to the Prophet, he directed him to waſh in *Jordan ſeven times, and be clean*; but *Naaman* was wroth, becauſe the manner of his *Cure* came not according to what he had imagined to himſelf, as you may read in the 11 & 12 verſes of that chapter; but his *Servants* gave him good counſel. So you may ſee that it is good for *great Men* to have good Servants, that may give good counſel in the time of need, and pacifie wrath in time of Anger; and it is good for Maſters to take Advice from honeſt faithful Servants; for if *Naaman* had gone away in his wrath, and not taken his Servants counſel to obey the Prophet, his Leproſie had remained with him, and he had not been cured.

There

There one thing more that I cannot let paſs, before I proceed to another place, and that is concerning the Covetouſneſs of *Gehazi:* We ſee that the Prophet of the Lord *Eliſha* would receive none of *Naaman*'s gifts, and although he urged him, yet he refuſed: Here is a true mark of a Prophet of the Lord, and of a Diſciple of Jeſus Chriſt; freely they receive from the Lord, and freely they give to the People; they covet no man's Gold, Silver nor Apparel. Honeſt *Paul*, who was a faithful Miniſter and Apoſtle of Jeſus Chriſt, was ſuch an one, as is witneſſed, *Matth.* 10. 7, 8. *As ye go, Preach, ſaying, The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand; heal the Sick, cleanſe the Lepers, raiſe the Dead, caſt out Devils; freely ye have received, freely give.* Alſo read *Acts* 20. 34, 35. 1 *Cor.* 4. 11, 12. 2 *Theſ.* 3. 8.

But *Gehazi* received them, and run after *Naaman* with a Lye in his Mouth, to get the Silver, and to get the Garments; as too to many this day run after the great Men and great Women of the Nations, with a Lye in their Mouth, covcting the Gold, and the Silver, and the Apparel. But what ſhould I ſay more? the Leproſie of *Naaman* did cleave unto *Gehazi*, and the Leproſie of *Gehazi* doth cleave to his

Seed forever, according to the Prophets words. And now the *Gehazians* have loſt the knowledge of the true Prophet, and they have loſt the knowledge of ſpiritual *Jordan*, and therefore their Leproſie remains, their Sin remains, their Defilements remain, and they have now loſt hope of ever being cleanſed on this ſide of the Grave, and preach this for Doctrine to the People: And they are very angry with any that ſpeak of a poſſibility of being made clean; *For a Body of Death and Sin* (ſay they) *will remain, and Imperfection will remain while we are on this ſide of the Grave.*

But what have I to do with them? or what ſhould I ſay more of them? for the Day breaketh, and the Light ariſeth, wherein they ſhall be made manifeſt to all, that will but open their Eyes to ſee them; and they that will not, muſt continue in blindneſs; and at preſent I will leave them with that ſaying of Chriſt, *Matth.* 15. 14. *Let them alone, they be blind Leaders of the Blind*, &c. And now to our purpoſe in hand.

Philip, the Evangeliſt had four Daughters, Virgins, which did Propheſie, as you may read, *Acts* 21. 8, 9. And *Paul* and others of the Diſciples tarried many dayes in *Philip's* Houſe; and yet we do not read

read that *Paul* reproved them for prophecying. So here you may ſee that in thoſe dayes there was Daughters that had the Spirit of Propheſie, and did Propheſie.

And alſo we read *Acts* 18. 26. That not only *Aquila*, but alſo *Priſcilla* his Wife, were Expounders of the Way of God; and *Aquila* was a Trades-man and Tent-maker, and *Paul* was of the ſame Craft.

And we read in *Phil* 4. 3. That there were Women which laboured with *Paul* in the Goſpel. And ſo you may ſee that there were Women-labourers in the Goſpel, as well as Men; and yet we read not that *Paul* rejected their labour, becauſe they were Women. And ſo you ſee there were Women-Propheteſſes, Women-Expounders, and Women-Labourers; and yet not rejected nor reproved by any of the Apoſtles, that I read of.

And *Paul* deſires *Titus*, to ſpeak the things which become *ſound Doctrine*; that the *aged Men be ſober*, &c. and that the *aged Women likewiſe be in Behaviour as becometh Holineſs* (or holy Women) *not falſe Accuſers, not given to much Wine, teachers of good things, that they may teach the younger Women to be ſober*, &c. read *Tit.* 2. throughout, and there you will ſee that *Paul* alloweth Women to be teachers of good

things as well as Men; and that Spirit is judged that would hinder what God alloweth, or ſtop that mouth which God opens.

And if Women did not meet together, how could the Elder teach the Younger? [Or it may be queried, If their teaching the younger Women be not moſt proper, comly and effectual in a Meeting, apart from the Men?] But it clearly may be ſeen, that God alloweth Women to labour in the Goſpel, and to teach good things; and he hath promiſed to pour out his Spirit upon the Women as well as the Men; and they are to meet often together, and to ſpeak often one to another, and to wait upon God together, and think upon his Name together, and praiſe his Power together, and call upon his Name together, as well as the Men; and the elder in the Truth to teach the younger in the Truth.

Obj. But ſome may ſay, *Seeing it is ſo clear from the Scriptures of Truth, that there hath been Women labourers in the Work of the Goſpel, and Women-Prophetеſſes, and Women-Expounders of the Way of God; and that it is commanded, the Elder Women to teach the Younger, &c. How ſhall I know what Women thoſe are that* Paul *forbids to ſpeak in the Church?*

Anſw.

Answ. All Women that are apt to usurp Authority over their Husbands; all Women that are under the Law, and that have not learned true subjection; and every Woman that hearkens to the Voice of the Serpent, and is deceived by him, as *Eve* was; while they continue in that state, cannot, nor may not be permitted to speak in the Church of God: And all the *Jezebelians*, who paint their Faces, and tire their Heads, and persecute the Prophets of the Lord, and maintain the false Prophets at their Table, or otherwise; and all them who run greedily after the Error of *Balaam* for Reward; and all them who speak evil of the things they know not; & all the *Gehazians* who covet Silver, Gold, and Apparel, and continue to be covered with the Leprosie of Sin to the day of their Death: These who were Lepers were shut out under the Law, and now they are shut out by the Spirit of God, none of these can be permitted to speak in Christ's Church: and all them who deny the new Law of Christ and Covenant of God to be written in the Hearts of Men and Women; and all them who deny the Unction of the holy One, and the leadings and guidings of the Spirit of Truth, that leads into all Truth, to be alone all-sufficient; and all such

ſuch Miniſters as break Chriſt's Command, and juſtifie themſelves in ſo do doing, as in calling one another *Maſter James*, and *Maſter John*, &c. None of theſe, while in that ſtate, may or can be permitted to ſpeak in the Church of God, but if they do, they are to be teſtified againſt; and all them that look for Gain, and ſeeks for Gain from their Quarters, and teach for Hire, and divine for Money; and all them who exerciſe Lordſhip over God's Heritage; and all them who beat their fellow-Servants; and eat and drink with the Drunkards; and all them who ſteal the Words one from another, and ſay, *Thus ſaith the Lord*, when the Lord never ſpake to them; and all them who uſe unſound Words, and flattering Titles to pleaſe Men, and keep not the form of ſound words; and all them that have a form of Godlineſs, denying the Power; I ſay none of theſe may or can be permitted to ſpeak in the Church of God; and all thoſe who deny Scripture-Teſtimony concerning Chriſt, and undervalue his divine Precepts and Commands; None of theſe may, or can be permitted to ſpeak in Chriſt's Church. But I had almoſt forgot to tell you, and did forget, till the Spirit of Truth brought it to my remembrance, that

at it is impoſſible that either Male or Female can ſpeak in Chriſt's Church, till ey be redeemed out of all theſe; for the ne Church is in God, and God is in his wn Kingdom, where the rebellious, and d diſobedient, and unclean cannot enr, nor any Man nor Woman can enter ods Kingdom till they be born again, d made new in Chriſt Jeſus.

To be ſhort, all who deny the Prophets octrine, or Chriſt's Doctrine, his dine Precepts recorded in holy Scripture, deny the Apoſtles Doctrine; I ſay, ch are not to be permitted to ſpeak in ne ſolemn Aſſemblies of the Saints; and lthough they confeſs all to be true, yet if ey walk contrary in Life and Practice, ey are to be ſilent in the ſolemn Aſſemlies of the Righteous. And all the Women that live in Pride and in Covetouſneſs, nd in the vain Adornings of their outward odies; and all that are drunken with the Cares and carnal Pleaſures of this preſent vil World; and all who uſeth Uſurpaion over the Man, outward or inward, re to be ſilent, and not to ſpeak in the Congregations of the Righteous. Whoever they be, Man or Woman, that are ound in the firſt *Adam*'s nature in the fall, ey not witneſſing a Death to that firſt Birth

Birth in them, and a Reſurrection through Jeſus Chriſt unto Life, in ſome meaſure I ſay, be they man or woman, the Spirit of God forbids them ſpeaking in the Church.

And as the Man and the Woman are all one in the Lord (being filled by the ſame Spirit of God) may ſpeak in the Church as the Spirit of God gives them utterance, it being not they that ſpeak, but Chriſt in them, the Spirit of Truth in them.

So the Man and the Woman are all one in old *Adam*, in the fall, and ſuch old Creatures may not, nor can be permitted to ſpeak in the Church.

Iſa. 49. 22, 23. *Thus ſaith the Lord God, Behold I will lift up mine Hand to the* Gentiles, *and ſet up my Standard to the People, and they ſhall bring thy Sons in their Boſom, and thy Daughters ſhall be carried upon their Shoulders; and Kings ſhall be thy Nurſing-Fathers, and their Queens thy Nurſing-Mothers,* &c.

Was it not here foretold, that Women alſo ſhould be nouriſhers or Nurſes in Chriſt's Church? And if they be Nurſes, they muſt have ſomething to give to the Children, and Milk in their Breaſts to the Babes: And if a Woman have the Milk of the Word of God in her Breaſt, to wit, in her Heart, let her not hide nor keep

ep it back, but she must give it forth to e hungry Babes; for if she do not her easts will grow dry.

O! my Soul and Life hath travelled with e Lord that I might see this day fulfilled, at this barren Wilderness might become fruitful Field, that Kings and Queens, inces and their Princesses, Dukes and eir Dutchesses, and all other great Men d great Women, of all Ranks and Degrees whatsoever, (among whom I have welt in the outward from my birth) might me to receive the Word of *Life* in themlves, and partake of the Promise in Christ esus in his Church, and that they may me to witness that noble Birth brought rth in them, that partakes of the Milk of e Word of God, and would cause it to sue abundantly to nourish the hungry abes and Children of Christ.

O Lord God! I wait for thy Salvation, to e thee perform that word that sprung in my art concerning them, even that the Wilderness ould become a fruitful Field, and that the ruitful Field shall become a Wilderness; It is ith thee, O Lord! to do that which no other an do, even to bring down the high Mountains, nd to level the high Hills, and to make thy Way thorow them, and to exalt thy Glory in he whole Earth; for thou art God, and there

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is none elſe; with thee all things are poſſibl glory to thy great Name forever and evermor ſaith my Soul.

Joel 2. 28. Acts 2. 17, 18. *And it ſha come to paſs that in the laſt days* (ſaith God *I will pour out of my Spirit upon all Fleſh; an your Sons and your Daughters ſhall Prophecy and your Young Men ſhall ſee Viſions, and you Old Men ſhall dream Dreams; and on my Ser vants, and on my Hand-maidens, I will pou out in thoſe days of my Spirit, and they ſha Prophecy.* And now in this Age, an in our Day, the Lord is fulfilling his Pro miſe, and his Spirit is poured forth upo many Sons and Daughters, Servants an Hand-maidens. The *Earneſt Penny* is al ready received, and many of them are run ing to and fro, and trading with their hea venly Penny, their heavenly Gift, that the may bring the Increaſe and Gain to thei Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. And W will be to them who hide their Lords Mo ney in the Earth, and put their Candl under a Buſhel of Earth; and Wo alſo wil be to them who ſtop, forbid and diſturb th Sons and Daughters, Servants and Hand maidens of the *Lord*, in their going to an fro, and improving their Lords money, (t wit, their heavenly Gift) that knowledg may be encreaſed; I ſay, wo and miſer

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will be the portion of such who disturb and stop them in their Travel, if they Repent not.

Psal. 2. 10, 11, 12. *Be Wise now therefore, O ye Kings, be instructed ye Judges of the Earth, serve the Lord with fear, and rejoyce with Trembling; kiss the Son lest he be angry, and ye perish from the Way: When his wrath is kindled but a little, blessed are all they that put their trust in him: If you rebel against him till his Wrath be kindled against you, he will break you & dash you to pieces, one against another, like a Potters Vessel.*

And now you may see, that the Promise is to Daughters as well as to Sons, to Handmaidens as well as to Men-servants; and that the one shall prophesie as truly as the other.

Hugh Wood.

THE END.